



THE COLONNADE

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Weekend Weather

Fri.	Sat.	Sun.
73 41 40%	68 36 10%	66 39 10%

Source: <http://weather.com>

NUMBER CRUNCH

2 Million

Number of flowers tapped by bees to make one pound of honey.

Source: www.pbs.org

When the stress is too much

BY SARAH VER STEEG
SENIOR REPORTER

It usually begins with a small cut. Overwhelming feelings of pain and stress melt as blood meets air. The sensation is often described as euphoric. It is a paradoxical moment when the infliction of pain brings relief.

What once was minimal eventually becomes uncontrollable, and the sparse scratches evolve into countless scars, some bound by stitches.

It is called Self-Injurious Behavior and is a growing trend among adolescents and young adults. According to a 2006 Cornell University study, 17 percent of college students report harming themselves by cutting, burning or carving. Based on the research, college campuses have seen a significant increase over the past five years in psychological disorders, one of them being SIB.

Adolescents generally injure themselves for one of three reasons. The first is to escape powerful emotions of rage or pain. Drawing blood and inflicting pain distracts them from

CUTTING Page 8

Swingin' in the 'Moonglow'



WILL GODFREY / SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

Todd Shiver, director of the GCSU Jazz Band, led the band during their performance on March 8 and March 9 in Russell Auditorium. The band performed in a 1940s swing style, highlighting the music of Benny Goodman and Glenn Miller. Songs showcased included "Moonlight Serenade," "Moonglow" and "Little Brown Jug."

Please see the review on Pg. 10

Finding the right apartment

BY SARAH VER STEEG
SENIOR REPORTER

There are four major factors that make or break the pleasant atmosphere of apartment living: roommates, the landlord, the complex and the lease. Unfortunately, many students endure less-than-perfect living situations that could have been avoided with a little research and a lot of questions.

First, the roommates. The desired roommate is dependable and financially responsible. It is important to determine whether

the person is studious or lazy, messy or neat. His or her personality has the potential to establish the mood of your home.

GCSU accounting instructor Judy Johnson said finding a roommate is one of the most crucial decisions in finding a suitable apartment. If two people with different values and habits live together, it can make for misery for both.

"Those things can break up a home faster than anything," Johnson said.

An easy way to avoid such misfortune is to know

people before moving in with them. Here are several guidelines to discuss before agreeing to live together:

- Loud music — find out what is considered "loud" to the other person, and when it is appropriate.
- Romantic sleepovers — is the other person comfortable with people of opposite gender staying the night? If so, how often?
- Trash/dishes — how do you divide up the responsibility?
- Pets — do you want them?

- Parties, alcohol, etc. — are they allowed in the apartment?

The second important factor is the landlord. The best way to know what to expect is to talk to prior tenants. It is vital to know whether he or she is responsive to repairs, and if he or she will invade your privacy.

GCSU junior Jessica O'Neill said it is unwise to judge a landlord or complex manager on first meeting. The same people who seemed eager to help

APARTMENTS Page 7

The new Village at West Campus

BY COREY DICKSTEIN
SENIOR REPORTER

Bobcat Village has embarked on a multi-faceted plan to change students' opinion of the on-campus apartment complex, starting with a name change.

Bobcat Village will now be officially recognized as The Village at West Campus.

Dr. Paul Jahr, director of University Housing,

explained that the change is a result of a marketing study geared to help students identify West Campus as a part of the school and not just a place students live.

Many students, however, will continue to choose off-campus living over The Village for other reasons.

"It's just one of those things where you feel

VILLAGE Page 8



JIMI ODOM / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Bobcat Village has been renamed The Village at West Campus as part of a campaign to create a new image for the facility.

Bill: tax free textbooks

BY ANA MARIA LUGO
SENIOR REPORTER

Every semester, college students from across the country have a unified complaint: The textbooks prices are ridiculously expensive. The whining finally got noticed and the government is doing something about it.

The Georgia House Legislature is currently deciding the fate of House Bill 141. If passed, HB

141 will eliminate sales tax on textbooks for college students. Georgia will join South Carolina, Tennessee, West Virginia, Missouri, Michigan, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York and North Dakota in states who are already enforcing this. There is also pending legislation in the states of Maryland and New Jersey and more states are considering it.

Sara Johnson, a GCSU

senior political science and history major and former SGA president, has been interning at the Georgia State Capitol under the Chairman of the Higher Education Committee of the House of Representatives.

"I've been doing research and helping raise awareness and support for this Bill," Johnson said. "It's important for stu-

TEXTBOOKS Page 7

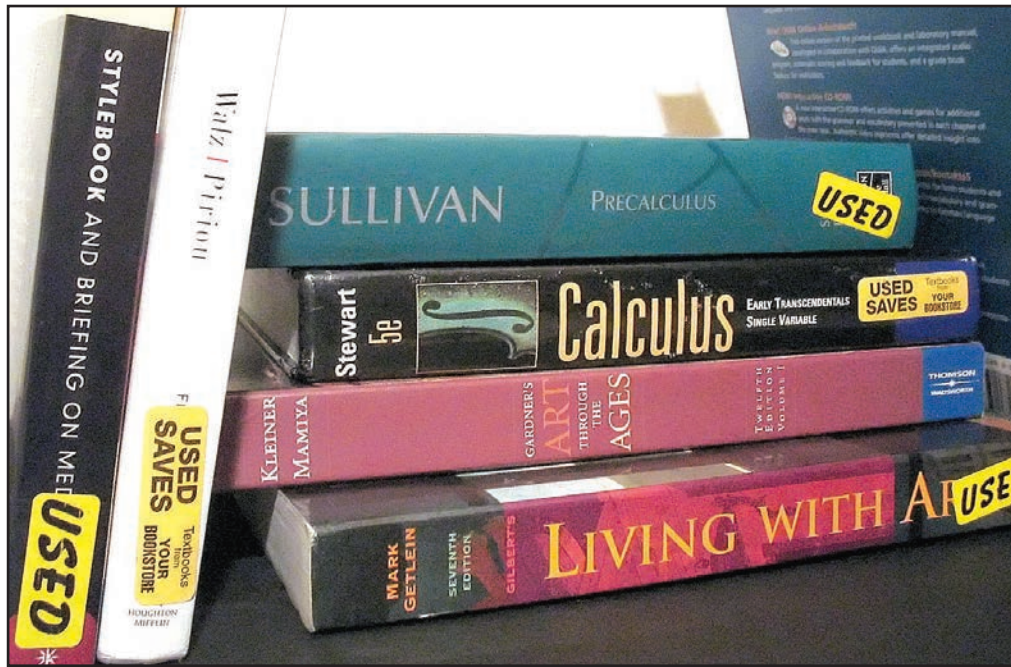


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY JIMI ODOM / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

House Bill 141 would eliminate the 8.25 percent sales tax on textbooks for students. Some students at GCSU have spent as much as \$350 on a single textbook.



NOW HEAR THIS

Attention all student organizations:

The Student Activities Budget Committee (SABC) will be meeting soon to discuss the 2007-2008 funding requests by eligible student organizations. To receive funding for the next year, groups must meet the following specific eligibility requirements and follow the budget request process as stated below from the approved “Student Activities Budget Committee Policies and

Procedures.” Organization Eligibility Requirements:

a) The group must be officially recognized and have a faculty or staff adviser. The organization must exist purely to serve or represent the student body as a whole. Programs and participation in the organization must be open to all students. The organization must not have any racial, religious or ethnic ties which might discourage otherwise interested students from joining it and

must not discriminate on the basis of race, sex or national origin.

b) The organization may require certain abilities or talents of its participants. However, the right to apply for membership in such an organization must be available to all interested students. Moreover, the organization must present a program which satisfies the following three requirements:

1. The program must be of general benefit to the student body and participation in the program must be open to all interested students.

2. The program must be one which the sponsoring organization is clearly better able to present than any other campus organization already being funded under criteria a.

3. The program must have sufficient value to warrant its funding when compared to other criteria spelled out above.

Approved student organizations that meet the eligibility requirements may pick up information concerning the process and requirements for a budget hearing in the Student Activities Office.

The information may also be found in the Student Handbook online at <http://www.gcsu.edu/studentlife/handbook/advisory.html>.

For full consideration eight (8) copies of the request for funding must be submitted to the SABC by March 16, 2006, c/o the Senior Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs, in the University

Housing office in the terrace level of Sanford Hall, CBX 60.

Approved student organizations meeting eligibility requirements are not necessarily guaranteed funding by the SABC, and organizations relating their request to the mission of the university will be given primary consideration. For any questions, please e-mail Janessa Hartmann, Student Government Association President, at janessa_hartmann@ecats.gcsu.edu, or call at (478)445-2795.

Astronaut touches down at GCSU

Three...two...one...Mill edgeville, we are a go. Space traveler and businessman Greg Olsen will deliver three speeches on Apr. 17 at GCSU. The first speech at 12:30 p.m. will be a part of the Coverdell Institute Symposium. The second speech at 2 p.m. will be delivered in Peabody Auditorium and the third at 4 p.m. will be delivered in the University Banquet Room.

Olsen was the third private citizen to orbit the earth on the International Space Station. After training for five months at the Yuri Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Center in Moscow, Russia, he launched on a Russian Soyuz rocket TMA-7 on Oct. 1, 2005, with cosmonaut Valeri Tokarev and astronaut Bill McArthur. He then docked to the ISS on Oct. 3, and returned to earth on Soyuz TMA-6 on Oct. 11, with cosmonaut

Sergei Krikalev and astronaut John Phillips after performing more than 150 orbits of the earth and logging almost 4 million miles of weightless travel during his 10 days in space.

Olsen is now president of GHQ Ventures in Princeton, N.J., where he manages his "angel" investments, South African winery, Montana ranch, and performs numerous speaking engagements to encourage children, especially minorities and women, to consider careers in science and engineering.

Olsen received a B.S., B.S.E.E. and M.S. in physics from Fairleigh Dickinson University and was awarded a Ph.D. in materials science from the University of Virginia. He performed post-doctoral studies at the University of Port Elizabeth in South Africa, taught elementary physics classes, and then worked as a research scientist at RCA Labs from 1972 to 1983.

He has been awarded 12 patents, written more than 100 technical papers, co-authored several book chapters and has given numerous invited lectures to both technical and trade journal audiences. Olsen is an IEEE LEOS Fellow and the first recipient of the prestigious IEEE Aron Kressel Award

Olsen is active in many civic organizations including Trenton Big Brothers and Sisters, Trenton Boys and Girls Club, Trenton Soup Kitchen, Princeton Historical Society, Custer Battlefield Preservation Committee and Fairleigh

Dickinson University and University of Virginia Alumni Associations.

The events are free and open to the public.

For more information contact Gregg Kaufman at (478) 445-1711, or e-mail gregg.kauffman@gcsu.edu.

GCSU sponsors Cherry Blossom Air Show

On Saturday, March 17, GCSU is sponsoring the Air Show at the Annual Cherry Blossom Festival in Macon.

The Air Show will be held at Macon's Herbert Smart Airport. Gates open at 2 p.m. and the show begins at 3 p.m. The event includes the beautiful Hot Air Balloon Glow at 7:30 p.m. The airport is located off Exit 6 of Interstate 16, just east of Macon.

The purpose of the sponsorship is to participate as a community partner with “Keep Macon-Bibb Beautiful” Commission and the Cherry Blossom Festival, promoting GCSUMacon, the university’s new Center for Graduate and Professional Learning.

The GCSU tent will offer information about the new graduate center in Macon as well as free GCSUMacon T-shirts — while supplies last.

Admission to the Air Show is \$5, with children under 12 admitted free. Parking is also free.

For more information, contact University Communications, (478) 445-4477.

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Details on page 9

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

March 16 - March 22

Friday, March 16

8 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.	10th Annual GCSU Student Research Conference, Student Center
2:30 - 4 p.m.	Retirement Reception in Honor of Harry Keim, University Banquet Room
8 p.m.	"Memory Garden": Play Presentation by Mark Sharf, A&S Auditorium

Saturday, March 17

7:30 p.m.	Guest Artist Recital,Betty Pepetone, Irish Harp, Max Noah Recital Hall
8 p.m.	Dance Minor Spring Concert, Russell Auditorium
8 p.m.	"Memory Garden": Play Presentation by Mark Sharf, A&S Auditorium

Sunday, March 18

1 p.m.	Lady Bobcats Softball vs. Belmont-Abbey, Peeler Athletic Complex (West Campus)
2 p.m.	Dance Minor Spring Concert, Russell Auditorium
4 - 5 p.m.	The Spectrum Performance Project, Blackbird Coffee House

Monday, March 19

12:30 p.m.	Feminist Activism Panel, Women's Resource Center (MSU 143)
7:30 p.m.	Guest Artist Recital - Piedmont Winds, Max Noah Recital Hall
6 p.m.	Opening Auditions for HMS Pinafore, Milledgeville First Presbyterian Church

Tuesday, March 20

6 p.m.	Opening Auditions for HMS Pinafore, Milledgeville First Presbyterian Church
3 p.m.	Parking Appeals Committee Meeting, Parking and Transportation Services Office (West Campus in the Health Sciences West Building)
5 - 7 p.m.	Dress for Success, Milledgeville Mall
6:30 p.m.	Campus Catholics Holy Grounds, Blackbird Coffee House, Downtown
7:15 - 8:15 p.m.	Beginning Shag Dance Class, Miller Dance Studio
8 p.m.	BSU Synergy, MSU Lounge

Wednesday, March 21

2 p.m.	Outdoor Aerobics, Wellness Depot Front Deck/Lawn
4 p.m.	Lady Bobcats Softball vs. Lander, Peeler Athletic Complex (West Campus)
5 p.m.	SIFE Meeting, 109 Atkinson Hall
5 - 7 p.m.	Visiting Artist Lecture: Reggie Prim, Art and Civic Engagement in the Community, Kilpatrick Hall Auditorium
6 p.m.	A.N.G.E.L.S. Meeting, GIVE Center

Thursday, March 22

1 - 4 p.m.	Teleconference: "Living with Grief: Before and After the Death," Chappell Hall 113
2:30 - 3:30 p.m.	Technology Discussion, Chappell Hall 102
5 p.m.	Public Lecture by Dr. Davis Etis (African Studies Program Slavery Series Event), A&S Auditorium
7:30 p.m.	GCSU Concert Band Performance, Russell Auditorium

Please send calendar submissions to colonnadenews@gcsu.edu

THE COLONNADE

Public Safety Report



Stolen Car, Stolen Gas

On March 5, 2007, at approximately 2:23 p.m., an officer requested assistance in reference to a gas drive off and possible stolen vehicle. The officer had the vehicle pulled over when the driver ran from the scene. Sgt. Ennis set up a block in the area of McIntosh and Elbert streets and saw a person matching the description running towards him from behind a residence. Sgt. Ennis apprehended the suspect who was turned over to the Milledgeville P.D.

Fender Bender

On March 5, 2007, at approximately 5:17 p.m., a student reported to Public Safety that as they were backing out of a parking space in the Centennial Center parking lot her car was struck by another vehicle. Slight damage was done to the student's car and moderate damage was done to the other vehicle. There were no injuries.

False alarm causes damage

On March 5, 2007, at approximately 11:05 p.m., Sgt. English was dispatched to Foundation Hall in reference to a broken sprinkler head causing the fire alarm to go

off. There was extensive water damage to the east wing on the first and second floors. Maintenance was called to repair the sprinkler head and clean up the water. Housing was notified.

It's the brakes

On March 6, 2007, at approximately 11:18 p.m., Sgt. English observed a vehicle on Clarke Street with no working brake lights. A traffic stop was initiated and contact made with the driver. Sgt. English determined that the suspect's tag did not belong to the vehicle; there was also no insurance on the vehicle and the suspect's license was suspended. The driver was arrested and taken to the Milledgeville P.D. The suspect was issued citations for no insurance, alteration of tag and driving while license suspended or revoked.

Watering the grass

On March 8, 2007, at approximately 12:39 a.m., Sgt. Williams observed a male urinating beside a residence at Wayne and Montgomery streets. Contact was made with the individual who appeared to be very intoxicated. The suspect was issued a citation for public drunk and released from the scene.

Forgotten Wheels

On March 8, 2007, at approximately 2:17 a.m., Sgt. Williams found a bicycle laying in the parking lot at the Centennial Center. The bike was brought back to Public Safety to be held for the owner to claim.

Information compiled by Brooke Williams

Please go online to gcsunade.com to download the extended Public Safety Report podcast.

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DOMINY'S DOODLES

BY KYLE DOMINY



Solid candidates add diversity to race



BY ANDREW ADAMS
COLUMNIST

The elections of 2006 ended just five months ago, meaning that it is now time to gear up for another race. In today's world candidates are constantly campaigning, taking breaks only at victory parties. Nearly 20 months before a single vote will be cast for president, there are solid candidates shaping up as front-runners for their respective party's nomination. For the democrats there is Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama and John Edwards. The republicans have Rudy Giuliani, John McCain, and Mitt Romney.

For the democrats to choose from, the field is quite liberal with most candidates adhering to the basic liberal platform. That platform would be socialized medicine, higher taxes, pro-choice, anti-Iraq War, greater role of

government in everyday life, opposition to capital punishment, pro-gun control, and anti-Patriot Act. Since these three democrats have mostly identical stances on these political issues the debate between the candidates isn't about message, but rather who's best suited to carry the message.

And looking at just the top three democratic front-runners there's a great amount of diversity for carrying the message. In Barack Obama the democrats have a distinguished African-American candidate that can out-debate practically anyone. In Hillary Clinton the democrats have a former first lady that has been one of the most productive junior senators over the last six years. In John Edwards the democrats have a white, southern male that finished in second place in the 2004 democratic primary and ran for vice-president.

Realistically, any of these three candidates have a good shot at being our President on Jan. 20, 2009. If I were a Democrat that felt that the most deserving, distinguished person should be the candidate, I would be supporting Hillary Clinton. Her hard work on liberal legislation like fed-

eralizing health care in 1994, and all the dozens of pieces of legislation that she's sponsored as a Senator make her a very deserving presidential candidate. But realistically, she has an unfavorable rating of 48 percent, the highest of any presidential candidate currently running in the country. It's virtually impossible to win at that percentage. The democrat that I see has the best chance of winning would be John Edwards. He might not be the most popular democrat, placing a distant third behind Clinton and Obama, but in every poll against major republican candidates he's doing as good or better than his democratic opponents. I know that America is ready for a black or female president, but the democrats best chance of winning right now is a white southern boy from North Carolina.

The republicans have the opposite problem in choosing their presidential candidate. The major issue in picking which Republican will run is figuring out what the message will be for 2008. The three republican front-runners are all very liberal politically. John McCain and Rudy Giuliani both support same-sex civil unions, a taboo issue for

conservatives, and are pro-choice on the issue of abortion. John McCain announced a few weeks ago that he is switching to pro-life, but his voting record in the Senate hasn't been. Mitt Romney is less socially liberal, but more economically liberal as he supports socialized medicine.

Out of these three republicans it would seem that Romney would be the most likely to pick up the "Religious Right's" support, except for the fact that he is a practicing Mormon. The southern, Christian, conservative base that the Republican Party has been so dependent on since Reagan's election in 1980 has no candidate to support in 2008. To bridge this gap many republicans are looking to Newt Gingrich, a former Speaker of the House from Georgia, to be a candidate that Christian conservatives can be proud of.

It is very ironic that the candidates that would do the best for each party are not the front-runners like Clinton, Giuliani, McCain, or Obama but the lesser known candidates like John Edwards and Newt Gingrich.

Send responses to
colonnadeletters@gcsu.edu

With surplus, what about PeachCare?

BY JERRY CALBOS
COLUMNIST

There is no question why Sonny Perdue was reelected as governor of our "great state" of Georgia. While most state budgets showed up short last year, Georgia's budget was the anomaly. The state had a \$600 million-plus surplus in the annual budget. Georgians were happy that there was extra money that could go to much-needed programs.

However, the guvnuh cannot seem to find \$121 million for PeachCare, the state-funded health care program for economically disadvantaged children. If their parents make below a certain income, then children are eligible for the

program; PeachCare helps more than 40,000 children in the state, according to The Atlanta Journal-Constitution. (Thursday, Feb. 22, 2007.) This does not include children of illegal immigrants (who are legal citizens of the U.S. if they were born in any U.S. state or territory.) Only 40,000 children in a state of almost 10 million residents!

While the majority republican General Assembly voted to allow criminalization of illegal immigration on the ballot for 2006, they are committing one of the most criminal acts that could ever occur on American soil. They are telling poor families that they have to pay out-of-pocket to see a doc-

tor or go to a hospital.

So what is the problem? Most of these families do not go to the doctor for a checkup or a simple cold if they do not have insurance. Either the parents cannot get off work (for reasons, for which there is not enough room to document and elaborate in this commentary), or they simply cannot afford it. So when the child falls deathly ill (or gets the flu in this flu season), the only option is to go to a public hospital (which cannot turn away anyone for any reason). Private hospitals would turn them away for not being able to pay.

Costs for one hospital do not need to be explained here, for expenses are out-of-sight

for one emergency visit for only 3 hours (if an ambulance was used it could be at least \$5,000. Nearly half of a low-wage workers annual salary.) Of course the burden falls on us taxpayers. I would gladly pay for a child whose uninsured if I had the money. Nevertheless, the state of Georgia has the money to pay for these children. Meanwhile, the state republicans had planned to spend \$100,000 to \$200,000 for a party on Friday, March 9, simply because the state legislature is out on recess. It is time Sonny got his priorities straight.

Send responses to
colonnadeletters@gcsu.edu

Our Voice

Student dis-services

GCSU boasts an extraordinary amount of student services. Problem is, most of them are ineffectual at best, and plain out worthless at worst.

Take for instance Student Health Services. There is a running joke among the students that if you went to health services with your leg cut off, you would leave with a bottle of Guaifenex and pat on the head. It is a place that students go to only as a last resort, only when they truly feel they cannot take the pain or suffering anymore.

And what do they get when they go?

They are treated to a 45-minute wait, a package of Ibuprofen, a mini-baggy of Halls cough drops and some vague guess at a diagnosis.

So what is the solution?

How about GCSU fork over the money and hire a real doctor for the students, a professional who can prescribe a stronger medicine than magic mouth wash?

After that they can move on to SERVE, the place of great mystery and wonderment to all of campus. We all know they are there somewhere in the background, but none of us really know what they do and why they do it. Most students and faculty alike could not even tell you in what building their office is located. To be honest, if they did their job, we wouldn't care where they are or what they are doing.

But, unfortunately, we must care.

We have to because it is a major inconvenience when myCATS does not work. It's a pain when the system crashes and you are trying to register for classes. Or, in our specific case, it's no very fun when half the computers in your office crash and the only SERVE expert on campus who can fix Macs is out of town.

Now, we do realize that the SERVE department is understaffed and that they do the best they can. So why doesn't the University take some of that money dedicated to creating more green space and hire a few more technicians? We can guarantee students will not mind the sight of their cars in a parking lot while their e-mails are sent and received with no problems.

In a more specific instance of the system failing, students who went to the Wellness Depot this past Tuesday were probably surprised to find that after their hard, sweaty work out, there was no water for them to drink. That's right, the school gym decided they needed to cut the water off while people were still working out. They couldn't be bothered to provide a cooler of water or free water bottles. Nope, instead they just put a sign up above the fountains saying they were "sorry for the inconvenience." Have they ever heard of dehydration? Isn't it a little dangerous?

But I guess if anyone had actually gotten sick, the non-existent personal trainers could have rushed the ill person over to health services for a bottle of Guaifenex.

Send responses to
colonnadeletters@gcsu.edu

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The Colonnade wants to correct mistakes appearing in the newspaper. If you believe we have made a mistake, please call us at (478) 445-4511 or (478) 445-2559 or e-mail us at colonnade@gcsu.edu

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Problems will not be repaired with minimum wage increase

Dear Editor,

I am writing this letter in response to the article titled, "Changes to minimum wage benefit students," printed in the Jan. 26, 2007 edition. At first glance of the article, I was thrilled about the increase in minimum wage. I showed the article to my best friend and she pointed out the long-term effects of fewer jobs and higher prices for goods and services. As reality has shown, these kinds of side effects only lead to inflation. The economy is unpredictable as it is right now, and I

guarantee that inflation will only make this situation worse.

An increase in the minimum wage has positive short-term effects, but also negative long-term effects via possible inflation. The working person needs to contemplate if higher wages are worth the cost of higher inflation.

Despite personal troubles of financial strains due to making minimum wage at my job in Atlanta, I would prefer to continue my status as an employed, full-time student than to lose my job because the company cannot afford to

have me on the payroll. If the economy does go through a slight depression period because of higher minimum wage, do not blame anyone, especially President Bush, because no single individual can control an ever-changing creature like the economy. Men and women alike have tried for centuries and yet we still face the same dilemma of the past with higher minimum wage causing higher inflation.

Sincerely,
Erica Van Keuren
Sophomore
Special Education

Give it up for the Thundercats

Dear Editor,

I commend the Thundercats for the ongoing effort to purchase a school mascot suit. The idea of a mascot has been shot down many times in the past due to the cost of the actual suit, but this particular group doesn't seem to mind. It takes a serious organization to get the whole fund raising thing

started. I've noticed at the past basketball game or two the collection jar set up for donations. I also commend the Thundercats for keeping everyone updated on the progress that they are making each week via Facebook.

Each week, I love seeing the Thundercats at the basketball games and seeing them with a mascot suit would only make them

more enjoyable. The fan support that these students are giving at each of the Bobcats' home basketball games is amazing. I can only hope that everything that they are working so hard for works out.

Sincerely,
Erica Allgood
Sophomore
Mass Communication

CORRECTIONS

In the March 9 issue of The Colonnade, we identified a new SGA Executive Officer as DeMarcus Greene. His name is actually Marcus Green.

THE COLONNADE POLICY: LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Colonnade encourages readers to express their views and opinions by sending letters to the editor at: CBX 2442; Milledgeville, Ga. 31061 or by e-mail at colonnadeletters@gcsu.edu

All letters must be typed and include:

- names

- address/ Email address
 - telephone number
 - year of study
 - major
- Only your name, year of study and major will be listed.
- Unsigned letters will not be printed. Names will be withheld only under very unusual circumstances.
 - Letters longer than 300

words may be condensed.

- All letters will be edited for grammar, spelling and punctuation errors.
- All letters become the property of The Colonnade and cannot be returned.
- We are not able to acknowledge their receipt or disposition. Letters will be printed at the discretion of the Editor in Chief.

POLL OF THE WEEK

GRAPHIC BY MEGHAN WIER

What is your preferred way to get caffeine?

Coffee 51%

Soda 28%

Energy Drink 8%

Caffeine Pills 0%

I don't ingest caffeine 13%

Next week's question:

What are you doing during Spring Break?

Vote online at GCSUnade.com

"What are your plans for St. Patrick's Day and why do you think the holiday is such a huge celebration?"



"I do not have any plans right now. I will probably be here in Milledgeville. I do believe it is the holiday that celebrates the Irish victory of when all the snakes were off the island."

David Wilson, Junior, Chemistry

"I am working on my thesis, but would rather take a break and go to Savannah, one of the largest St. Patrick's Day parties in the U.S."

Matt Henderson, Senior, History



"I am definitely going to wear a green hat and consume green drinks!"

Phillip Power, Senior, Business

"I am part Irish and will be celebrating with some friends. I believe that St. Patrick's Day is the only holiday the Irish get to celebrate in America, so it is their chance to shine!"

Jenn Clement, Senior, Creative Writing



"I plan to see a play with my family, and I would have to say that Irish Americans view St. Patty's day as a time to celebrate their advancement and challenges they faced and overcame as a group of people."

Chrissy Begemann, Sophomore, English

Beat Reported by Kate McWilliams

The Litter Box

Instant Message with "ColonnadeVent"

ColonnadeVent

Last message received at: 6:33:10 PM

Someone needs to inform The Grove grounds people that 9 in the morning is NOT the best time to use the weed eater and leaf blower under someone's window!!

To the turd-heads who put Deanie Rae in a box: I'm going to kill you!

I think its rather funny that the only people who seem to complain about Bobcat Village are the people who don't live there. Cool, you may be spending 200 dollars less a month, living in a crappy house with mean landlords with bugs and maintenance problems... but I have an amazing workout room, free carwash, free laundry, free utilities (with no cap) a free month of rent off, a pool, spacious living and a CA who helps and who I only see when I'm locked out. CAs and RAs that try and run our lives? Where did you get that? Not true. All they do is help you.

Want proof that America is getting dumber? Last week the top six shows on television were as follows: 1.American Idol, 2.American Idol, 3.American Idol, 4. Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader?, 5. Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader?, 6. Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader?

So you know what's awesome? When your advisor forgets, yet again, to take the hold off so that you can register, which you, of course, find out at 5 in the morning after you've woken up early because you only need one class left to graduate. Oh, only to make someone's day even better, advisors can then argue with you that they shouldn't take the hold off once you finally get a hold of them four hours after you wake up.

Why is the parking and transportation office trying to make me hate GCSU?!?! I mean seriously- I left my car for 15 minutes, and the dang thing had been towed when I got back. Why don't you invest your time in fixing the parking and THEN tow my car away?

I am proud to say I did not vote in the SGA election...I do NOT vote for kids who pop their collars. And there are really no teeth to SGA elections anyway, it's a big popularity contest

The W's suck!

The army of jazz tubas are coming to kick my a\$\$!

Lucida G... 12 B I U A A A Link

Want to vent about something? Send us a message about what's bothering you to screen name **ColonnadeVent**. Comments can be sent anytime, any day of the week.

Add Get Info Send

Math Quiz:

Circle One

1. Which amount would you want to pay each month to live in a luxury two-room apartment – \$565 or \$532?
2. Which amount would you want to pay each month to live in a luxury four-bedroom apartment – \$495 or \$478?

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Apartments

Continued from Page 1...

when she first signed the lease took two months to replace a moldy vanity in her bathroom.

“Talk to other people first,” O’Neill said. “Don’t go by what people say who work there. People who represent the company or the complex manager may not tell you the truth.”

Also, it is important to know how to divide up utilities and make rent on time. O’Neill said it totally depends on who you live with.

“Make sure you live with someone you can trust,” O’Neill said.

A third factor to make apartment living more pleasant is the complex itself. The environment should be compatible with a college lifestyle. If it is a complex or neighborhood with more family-based or older adult residents, it may be wise to reconsider locations.

Johnson said she had problems with students being too loud in her neighborhood. She complained to the police on numerous occasions.

“At 3 in the morning they were hooping and hollering and having a grand time on the front lawn,” Johnson said.

Obviously, students who come and go during the night and like to have loud fun should consider an environment where such behavior is common and accepted.

Junior Laura Deemer experienced loud neighbors at her apartment complex as well. Her flat is on the middle floor, surrounded on all sides by other college students, some of whom disregard her need to study in a quiet environment.

“Our Thursday nights are composed of essays and catching up on the week,” Deemer said.

Deemer has complained many times about the noise to her complex managers, but she has seen no change.

“It’s been documented and documented, but nothing ever happens,” Deemer said. “I don’t even know if [the other tenants] even get talked to about it.”

Deemer’s advice is to know about potential problems that apartments face and confront the top level of management or the landlord about them.

“Ask them how they are going to resolve the problems,” Deemer said.

The final aspect that is necessary to understand when apartment hunting is the lease. The most important thing to do is read it. Many people just sign it and assume they agree with it.

A lease is a binding legal document, and a landlord can place any requirements in it that he or she chooses. Consequently, it is crucial to negotiate. Come prepared when you sign the lease. Ask questions about the landlord’s policies. Here are a few examples of important things to tie down before signing a lease:



BRITTANY THOMAS / SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER
It takes many factors to find the perfect apartment.

What happens if one of the roommates leaves before the lease is up? Are the other roommates responsible for his or her rent?

Who is liable on the lease (just one, or all of the roommates)?

Is it a one-year lease or a month-to-month?

What is the repair policy? Will the renters be held liable for damages?

What is “reasonable” wear and tear?

Johnson said a good way to prevent losing the security deposit the landlord requires is to walk through the apartment with the landlord and point out every defect, then write it down and sign it. Then, when the lease is up, the renters will only be held responsible for damage they did.

“Please understand,” Johnson said, “these people want to rent the apartments as much as students do. [Students] do have bargaining power.”

In apartment hunting, information is empowerment, and ignorance could lead to a miserable experience. Know exactly what is expected of you and what you can expect in return, and it should be beneficial for everyone.

Textbooks

Continued from Page 1...

dents to know that they can have impact on the phenomenon of escalating textbook prices and that they have an active voice to do something about it.”

The price of college books has tripled since 1986. In a recent article from CNN, a four-year college student would spend an average about \$900 on books and supplies per school year.

“I paid \$200 for a chemistry book once,” Johnson said. “A friend of mine paid \$350 for an anatomy book, which for a college student is really ridiculously high.”

Publishers in part have been opposed to this bill because it does not take into account the high cost of publishing textbooks, not to mention the fact that not enough are sold because many are made available on the resale market.

“I’ve paid over \$400 in book fees alone for a semester,” said Ashley Whiteside, a junior biology major. “I feel that Biology majors especially feel the rising cost of books because our books seem to cost more.”

Even though the bill sounds promising, some students are still unsure whether or not eliminating sales tax would actually help.

“My main concern is I still have to buy the textbooks regardless of what tax policy is,” said Matt Anderson, a junior psychology major. “I’ve hardly bought any used books this semester because they



LEE SANDOW / SENIOR REPORTER
The new bill would prohibit a sales tax from being applied to textbook purchases for students.



seem to come up with new editions that we have to buy anyway.”

In an interview with CNN, Danny Kantz, a campus organizer for the California Public Research Interest Group, reflected the attitude that many students have towards the frequent updates and add-ons to textbooks.

“Certainly there are some subjects with a legitimate need for a new textbook every couple of years because the content changes so rapidly,” Kantz said. But, “calculus hasn’t changed in 300 years, so there’s no need for a new

edition of a textbook every couple of years.”

Either way, students can expect to benefit from the bill, should it pass.

“That’s money that my parents are saving,” Whiteside said. “It’s awesome.”

Johnson said that even if the bill is not passed right away it will still help students because it will help the committee come up with other options to help students such as helping faculty explore cheaper alternatives.

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Village

Continued from Page 1...

more free off campus,” said Casey Brown, a sophomore education major.

Brown currently lives at Magnolia Park, but lived at Bobcat Village last year.

“Magnolia has nicer apartments, more amenities and just the freedom feeling of living off campus.”

Another change is to dedicate the 500 and 600 buildings at West Campus as freshmen housing. A policy that GCSU hopes will encourage students to stay at Bobcat Village into their upperclassmen years, according to a GCSU Housing document entitled New Strategies.

The school has initiated a program in which the first 500 students to sign a contract to live at The Village will receive their July 2008 rent free.

“I think students will look into that and just see that it’s a good offer,” Jahr said. “Hopefully they’ll see that we are making efforts to bring them in and welcome them to stay here. And the one month free rent really makes a difference in money.”

GCSU has also announced plans to make a physical change. They will build a community building that Jahr said will include a new food services facility, classrooms and a social area. The building will be built centrally, overlooking the soccer field.

“It doesn’t matter what they do, students want to be free,” said Brad Kuglin, a senior accounting major who currently lives at Magnolia Park. “You don’t want to have that whole ‘Big Brother’-type thing looking over you on



COLONNADE FILE PHOTO
The Village at West Campus will house upperclassmen and freshmen starting in the Fall of 2007.

campus and you know, you can’t beat the pool area at Magnolia.”

Gina Peavey, who is the executive assistant to the vice president of Student Affairs, said that the changes are being made because students demand more from student living than ever before.

“Basically we just need to compete better with the off campus living market,” Peavey said. “Magnolia and The Grove have kind of come in and become the new, exciting thing. We hope that we can make the changes to bring some students back here.”

The school has recently conducted a number of focus groups with students to study what changes will make The Village more attractive to them. Brown and Kuglin attended a focus group of Magnolia Park residents.

“The focus group was fun, everyone pretty much agreed that Magnolia is just better fit for, you know, all of us than Bobcat is,” Brown said.

Some students, however, are happy with Bobcat. Frank LaVelle, a sophomore chemistry major and Bobcat resident said he plans to stay there.

“It’s great, the best part

is not having caps on the utilities, you can run water and heat and it won’t raise your rates at all,” LaVelle said. “And the shuttle service is pretty good.”

Lavelle said he is somewhat familiar with the changes for next year.

“(The changes are) a great idea. I like the classroom idea, to not have to go farther away for classes and an eating area. What a great advantage.”

Jahr believes that The Village offers a great product to students.

“Obviously, living at Bobcat, we’re not looking for the hellacious parties. If you want to have a keg party at the pool we’re not for you,” Jahr said. “Our occupancy is not where we would like it to be, but if we make the changes and get the word out, I think it could be right where it needs to be.”

The changes, however, do not impress students like Brown and Kuglin.

“We just want to be able to have a little more fun, Magnolia is nicer and the changes at Bobcat just really don’t quite do it for me after living there last year. I won’t be going back,” Brown said. “I like it (at Magnolia).”

Cutting

Continued from Page 1...

these feelings. Second, some adolescents feel numb and void of emotion because of prolonged feelings of sadness. The physical pain of cutting stimulates them to feel something. The third reason teenagers injure themselves is for release. For them, their trickling blood symbolizes the release of anger, frustration and pain.

A Local Example

For one GCSU sophomore, cutting herself allowed her to cope with her painful circumstances. Much of her life was out of her control and caused her emotional distress, but by cutting herself, she was able to have control of when and where she felt pain.

“It made me feel better to be able to see why I was hurting as opposed to it just being something that happened with my family or a fight,” she said.

This fine arts major said another reason she injured herself was to release adrenaline.

“When I would get upset, my blood would start to flow and I could practically hear it in my ears,” she said. “Cutting myself released all of that and kind of allowed me to calm down.”

The cutting started when she was 14. She recalled visiting with some of her friends from her hometown that day and having fun with them. She said she should have been happy that day, but she wasn’t.

“I think on some level I knew that it was going to end and I was going to have to go back home and leave them all,” she said. “I wasn’t even focusing on it, I just looked down and realized I had cut open my knee.”

This began a three-year period of cutting. At the most frequent time, she was cutting herself several times a week.

“Whenever anything would upset me, I would use it to make myself feel better,” she said.

The GCSU sophomore realizes now that although she felt in control by cutting, she wasn’t.

“It becomes addictive and it is very dangerous,” she said. “You aren’t only harming your body, but you are also harming yourself psychologically.”

Looking back on her experiences, she appreciates the trying circumstances she trudged

through.

“Honestly, I don’t regret it,” she said. “I know that I could have handled everything a lot better if I would have gone to therapy, but it was a life experience and I am just lucky that I could learn from it and that I didn’t hurt myself any worse than what I did.”

A Professional Word

Dr. Mary Jane Phillips, director of the GCSU counseling center, affirmed the self-injury trend in college students. In her experience, the last five years have shown a significant rise in the amount of students struggling with it.

Phillips said cutting is a means of relieving tension and is not an immediate threat of suicide. Teenagers who do it are not necessarily trying to hurt themselves.

“The people who use this strategy don’t have other effective ways of managing stress and tension,” Phillips said.

Phillips gave several other methods that release endorphins and relieve stress:

- Exercise
- Social support (talking to friends)
- Spiritual practice (prayer/meditation)
- Eating
- Shopping
- Alone time

Phillips has specific strategies for dealing with students dealing with self-injury. She never forces decisions on anyone; rather, she helps them realize where they are and where they want to be.

“It would be foolish to try to impose change,” Phillips said. “I’m not able to make people do what they don’t want to do. If they do want change, we

explore other methods over time to deal with stress.”

Phillips noticed some similarities with students who cut themselves. The first is that the issue is frequently about control. She also said many students have past issues with their families that translate into their need to harm themselves. For example, a teenager might have been raised in a family where displaying anger was not tolerated. As a result, they had no healthy way to express anger. This led them to cutting as a secret method of getting it out in the way they chose.

“They would figure out something else to do — an outlet to express feelings,” Phillips said.

According to Phillips, cutting is not an effective measure of managing stress. The human body responds to stress physically with a buildup of chemicals and adrenaline. A healthy way of dealing with this reaction is release, and cutting actually does not achieve this effect.

“If all you do is cut, you are not using up stress chemicals, you are just masking them,” Phillips said. “It’s not good stress management.”

She compared it to having a drinking problem—using alcohol to “escape” problems and pain.

“It is habitual, and it keeps you from using effective approaches,” Phillips said.

Self-injury is a trend on the rise, a new method of dealing with negative feelings. The initial cut is done in desperation to mend the pain, but the true wound is to the soul, much deeper than a band-aid can fix.

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PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY WILL GODFREY / SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER
Some students turn to cutting themselves to relieve stress. The habit is both addictive and dangerous.

Monograms & More

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YouTube a good resource

BY JAMIE FLEMING
SENIOR REPORTER

Gone are the days where you have to be on the silver screen or a sitcom to be considered a celebrity. Nowadays, it is not uncommon for average, run-of-the-mill folks to be heralded as famous with venues like reality television and video sharing Web site.

Now all it takes is a camera, creativity, maybe some friends or a family pet and a computer, and your on your way to being famous.

Daily, millions of viewers watch over 77 million videos about everything from funny cats to the elderly playing Nintendo Wii on the immensely popular Web site, YouTube. It's a place where people share, comment on and view videos by anyone.

YouTube is one of the sites referred to as Web 2.0, the new generation of Internet. According to whatis.techtarget.com, Web 2.0 is the popular term for advanced Internet technology that includes blogs, wikis (server program that allows users to collaborate in forming the content of a Web site), RSS (an XML-based vocabulary that specifies a means of relating news or other Web content that is available for "feeding" (distribution or syndication) from an online publisher to Web users) and social bookmarking (which is unlike storing bookmarks in a folder on your computer, tagged pages are stored on the Web and can be accessed from any computer.) The differentiation between Web 2.0 and Web 1.0 technologies is mainly subjective. Other characteristics include free Web services, interactive encyclopedias and dictionaries and ease of data creation, modification or deletion by individual users.

An amateur filmmaker and junior creative writing major, Paul Grigsby uses YouTube for inspiration for new film ideas.

"I use it to discover what other people are doing with video," Grigsby said. "If I find an idea that I like I could either alter the idea or it could inspire me to do it a totally different way."

One video he found useful for his films is a popular matrix-esque pingpong video.

"There was a pingpong video where guys were playing pingpong, and there were men dressed in black suits that aided in a movement that was humanly impossible like a guy flying in the air slowly, and the ball moving in slow motion," Grigsby said.

And just like millions of others, Grigsby uses YouTube as a source of entertainment.

"Some of the time, I watch older cartoons for entertainment and old television shows that aren't on anymore," Grigsby said. "I

value the ability to sit down and watch a program when I feel like it rather than be controlled by a schedule."

Emmanuel Little, a senior mass communication major, said he mainly uses the site to watch interesting videos.

"I like to look at music videos and spoken word," Little said.

Senior mass communication major and amateur filmmaker, Hetty White, also enjoys watching videos on YouTube.

"One of the main reasons I watch YouTube videos is to see if the most popular videos are better than the ones I create (what's the competition out there)," White said. "There is some funny and some really cool stuff on there. I like being able to find people who can dance, play instruments, etc. like I have never seen. Anything that makes me laugh is worth the download."

White said she has seen some really bizarre things on the website.

"The craziest thing I have seen would probably be a supposed real video of a bride-to-be shaving all her hair off in a mad fit the hour before her wedding," White said. "She freaked out."

Grigsby and Odinaka Ezeokoli, a senior chemistry and English major, also use YouTube to promote organizations they are a part of. Ezeokoli has posted a few clips of his WGUR radio show, MOB Squad.

"(I want to give) a taste of what we talk about because people use it, and I want the people that use it to listen to my show," Ezeokoli said.

Grigsby posts clips of performances by his organization, Art as an Agent for Change. He said he puts them up as a message for people.

"I have a message that I believe needs to be heard," Grigsby said. "What better place to put it where it can be heard and seen."

Last summer, Grigsby, White and other fellow students traveled to the Czech Republic. In addition to other Web sites, they used YouTube as a way to document and share their experiences.

"We made videos of certain parts of the trip like the 300 Czech steps, Adrspack National park and various churches and cathedrals," Grigsby said. "YouTube enabled us to put our (documentation) on different sites and share it."

While many consumers view YouTube as a positive phenomenon, several companies and individuals have sued for copy right infringement on videos. According to businessweek.com, YouTube's policy is to remove copyrighted clips once they are notified to their existence; content providers, however, say

they should be more proactive. YouTube was sued last July by independent photographer, Robert Tur because his work was distributed without permission, and Universal Music Group was considering suing them, too. Now, YouTube has acquired content deals with CBS, Universal Music Group, and Sony BMG. It also has similar deals with General Electric's NBC and Warner Music Group. These companies allow YouTube to distribute approved copyrighted content from its partners in return for a share of advertising revenue.

While many of those in previous generations say that our generation is apathetic to politics and the government, YouTube tells a different story. You can see many young people creating and sharing videos with a political message. For example, YouTube subscriber Keith Petrower humorously made use of Beyonce's hit single, 'Irreplaceable' to discuss the shift of control to the Democrats. According to the Albuquerque Tribune, YouTube has become another Internet tool to rouse political activists and political junkies; strategists say it's an entertaining new way to contact voters directly. Others use it to spread awareness about things they consider important such as breast cancer, child abuse and Islamic awareness.

Many think that YouTube is an important outlet for personal expression. Grigsby said it is a great place to share social expression, but it can be both positive and negative.

"Offensive material as well as non-offensive material can be on YouTube," Grigsby said. "It enables people to share their thoughts with millions of other people. Martin Luther King can share his idea as well as the KKK can."

White said she thinks the site is important because individuals have made it that way.

"People start 'walking it out' at dances because they have seen the little girl do it on a YouTube video," White said. "Millions of people are watching and being affected by what they are watching. The viewers are showing what they deem important by voting on the videos they like and then others noting what others are deeming important."

Grigsby said sites like YouTube are important because they are easy to use and anyone can use them.

"Now that it's simple to broadcast what I have to say to the world, that goes a step beyond," Grigsby said. "It gives everyone a chance to stand up and be heard, from the biggest voice, to the smallest voice."

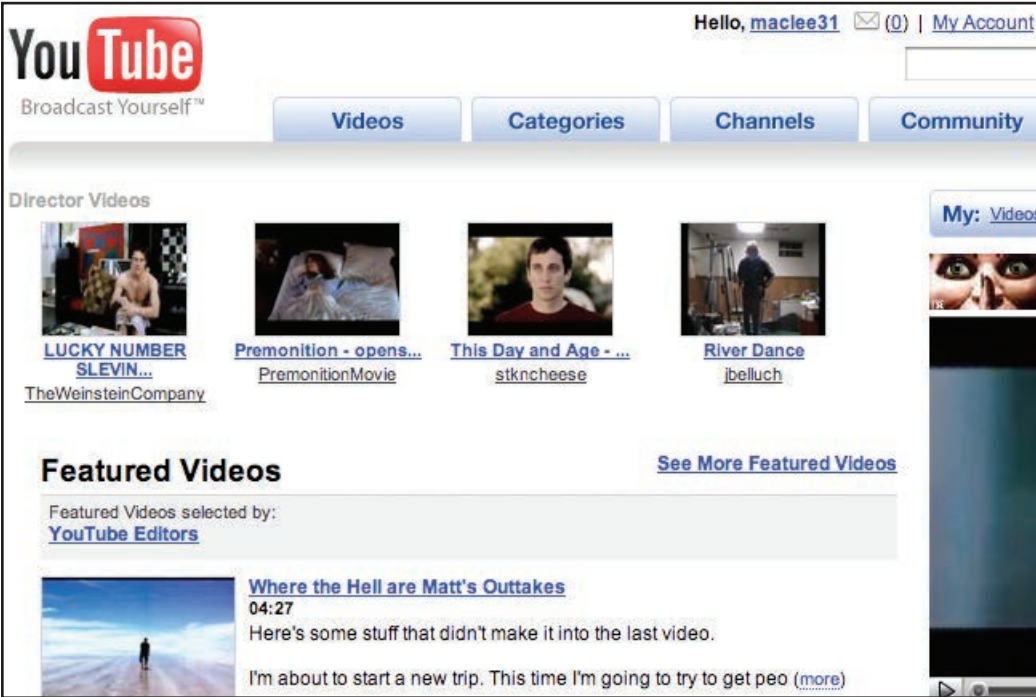


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE WEB
YouTube allows users to upload their own videos to the Web for the world to see. Bobcat Media Productions upload their news shows onto YouTube.

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Local man is the bee's knees



KATIE HUSTON / SENIOR REPORTER
John Pluta inspects the bees in his roadside bee farm. He sells bees wax and honey to whomever wants to stop by. He started keeping bees when he was a berry farmer to pollinate his crop.

BY KATIE HUSTON
SENIOR REPORTER

The Mason jar was filling fast as a seven year old John Pluta added more bees to it. The bees swarmed around their new glass dungeon trying to understand their predicament. Perhaps, trying to understand why a seven year old was not afraid of them.

John Pluta was determined to see some honey.

Pluta, now in his forties, recalls how he knew nothing about bees in his childhood.

"I just couldn't understand why they wouldn't make any honey for me," he said.

He has solved his problem.

Now the owner of a roadside bee farm, Pluta makes a living off his bees. In his arms as he makes his way down his front steps is an eight pound box of 116 blocks of bees wax.

"I'm shipping this off to a woman who buys all this to make skin care products. It's not just honey we have here, it's the honey and the by products of the hive," he said.

He takes the eight pound box back inside his house. When he returns, he is wearing a straw hat and he is ready to get to work.

He opens the door of one of his many work sheds to a

room of giant barrels and buckets of honey. One of the barrels is propped up so that the honey will slide into a bucket on its own.

"I'm just trying to salvage the last little bit of honey, because it's supposed to be warm tomorrow, the bees will come and the bees will recycle every single last bit I haven't gotten out of here," Pluta explains.

Carrying the 60 pound bucket of honey, Pluta travels down into his basement where the honey is processed. The sticky floor grabs the sole of his boots with every step.

"Whenever you're dealing with honey, everything is sticky," Pluta says. This sticky business of his is not something Pluta planned on. He stumbled into the career of beekeeping.

Pluta was a berry farmer and was experiencing a lack of bees pollinating his crop. After unsuccessfully looking for a beekeeper to solve his problem, he decided he would buy some bee hives.

"It was a cold winter, so, I ran down to the local library and bought a few books on beekeeping and I thought, 'I could do this,'" he recalls.

It has been farmer's hours ever since for this king bee. Pluta is up every

morning at sunrise and works until sunset. Having bees in ten different counties can keep a man busy.

"By having them in different places, that's how I get so many different kinds of honey," Pluta says.

Storing the honey can dirty up quite a sink. "The only part of beekeeping I don't like is being a dishwasher," Pluta says. "That and getting stung."

Yes, even professional beekeepers get the occasional sting. If 20 stings a day is occasional.

"A good day is always less than twenty times, a bad day is more than twenty," he says. "When you're out there working with the bees, some days are worse than others."

Pluta recalls one bad day over all the others.

"I backed into about four hives one time and knocked them over and by the time I got them stacked back up that was about two hundred stings," he said.

"Each sting still hurts. After a certain amount you start going into shock a little bit. You know, when you get stung that many times. Most beekeepers are actually immune to the venom to a certain extent. 20 to 50 stings are no problem, but once you start going over 100, that's going to affect anyone."

Pluta says there is no

trick to avoiding being stung.

"Protective covering makes it harder to work. In the summertime it's hot, you start sweating, and bees don't like sweat," he says. "When you're all hot and sweaty and they're around you, they just get annoyed sometimes."

A true lady's man at heart, Pluta is constantly surrounded by women. Not just the two women he lives with or the other two women he "just dances with" at Cowboy Bill's on the weekends where he is an occasional DJ. Most of his women come in swarms.

"A bee hive is 99% female. Walking through the yard, if you walk in front of a bee, that's when they get you. And so, we never know what the darn women are going to be doing," he says. When not fending off the dreaded queen bee, Pluta says business is good. A typical springtime workday for Pluta is 16 to 18 hours, but customers tend to show up at all hours.

"A lot of times, once you think the day is over, people will come after dark and start honking their horns," he says. "You get phone calls late at night and early in the morning. People always calling me

BEES page 11



RACHEL SLOAN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Sodexho was colorfully decorated for the Chinese Lantern Festival which took place on March 8. The Festival celebrates the Chinese New Year.

Sodexho brings China to GCSU through lamps

BY BECCA BROOKS
STAFF WRITER

The Chinese Lantern Festival traditionally celebrates the fifteenth day of the Chinese New Year. On March 8, Sodexho was briefly transformed with a touch of the festivities.

At the beginning of the dinner session, Karen Ramirez, the Campus Services Coordinator for Sodexho, and some assistants introduced the festival, the preceding events, and a short history of the lanterns.

"I was hired to implement our cultural events, as a marketing specialist, and execute monthly promotions for the Sodexho Corporation," Ramirez said, "They usually run for about a week; so for this month, the theme is the Chinese New Year since it is about this time of year."

Historically, the lanterns that are colorfully hung represent ancient story scenes, the 12 animals of the Chinese Zodiac, heroic figures, and riddles. Over time, limitless possibilities for beautiful and ornamental lantern designs have emerged to express Chinese tradition.

The lanterns are not the only noteworthy part of the festival. The last night, Xiao, is used to make peace, forgive old grudges, symbolize a new start for families, and perpetuate unity throughout the community.

The tang yuan dish is a food necessity during the festivities and is comprised of rice balls filled with black sesame paste, tangerine peel, walnuts, meats, and vegetables.

The round shape represents a full moon, and corresponding with the festival, marks the first full moon of each year.

While the exact origins are uncertain, Buddhism, Taoism, and the legend of the Taiyi worship god predict the festival's creation

around 206 BC through 221 AD. Nevertheless, the cultural and social aspects of the lantern festival have made it popular in the United States and throughout the world.

"[The events] serve a purpose; they are educating the students about different cultures in a social environment," Seigler said.

General Manager of Sodexho, Neil Seigler, was pleased with the turnout and success of the event. The Tunes and Tastes promotions, held by Sodexho, constructively relate to students and faculty. Michael Dykes, a junior psychology and math major, was positively influenced by the experience.

"I like to learn about different cultures in general," Dykes said, "It's really good to have the opportunity to try new foods and learn about other traditions."

The community aspect of Sodexho events generates a crowd of students and visitors to gather, learn, and enjoy the foreign culture.

"We know they are coming to eat in a social environment and then we have more time to get their attention during dinner and execute by educating," Seigler said.

During the evening, chopstick contests were enjoyable, as well as fortune cookie contests, Tae Kwon Doe basic free-sparring without contact, and music that entertained and amused. The entire event was student-gear and engagingly connected to their taste buds and eye balls alike.

Ramirez is planning a Luau for the end of March with the Pause organization to resemble a carnival-like Spring Fest. After such a huge success with the celebration of the Chinese Lantern Festival, the staff of Sodexho has a lot to live up to.

Students get 'In the Mood' with Jazz Band



JAMES ODOM / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
The GCSU Jazz Band performed the music of Benny Goodman and Glenn Miller for their "1940's Swing" concert.

BY TYLER SMITH
REVIEWER

Following The GCSU Jazz Band's stellar performance at December's sold-out Christmas concert,

Todd Shiver and his lineup of musicians seemed poised to take their craft to the next level with the Spring concert. But, with "1940's Swing, featuring the music of Benny

Goodman and Glenn Miller," the band turned in good, though not great, concert.

Both Goodman and Miller were honored with a set of seven tunes, not including encores, which highlighted the swing legends' careers. Classics like "Moonlight Serenade," "Moonglow" and "Little Brown Jug" were preformed with expert precision by the band. To go along with the music, both Thursday and Friday night's shows featured a variety of visual elements including a video of Goodman and Miller. Band members also provided a physical element as they hopped with the beat and swayed their instruments with the music.

The highlight of Thursday's performance came with the jazz band's version of "Sing, Sing, Sing." Monique Williams demonstrated what drum-

ming is all about as she thrashed her way into the spotlight of the piece. Her enthusiasm spread through the audience as she brought down the house. Also on Thursday night, the band's version of "In the Mood," had an elderly couple literally dancing in the aisle.

But the performance was not without its low points. The show could easily have been renamed "A Tribute to the Phillips," after vocalist and trumpet player Phillip Joiner and saxophone and clarinet player Phillip Gubser. While it makes sense that the concert would feature many solos by Gubser and his clarinet in a tribute to clarinetist Goodman, the overabundance of Joiner seemed out of place, especially considering that he is no longer a student at GCSU. After playing solo for fully half of the band's numbers, Joiner again took center stage as the only male

JAZZ page 11



RACHEL SLOAN / SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER
Allen Coe, Freshman computer science major (left) helps demonstrate some karate moves.

Dancing for a good cause



RACHEL SLOAN / SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER
Students dance and have fun at the Dance Marathon held on Feb. 24. The proceeds went to aid patients at the Children's Hospital Medical Center of Central Georgia.

BY S. ASHLEE
MOONEYHAN
STAFF WRITER

"It was hard to imagine Trinity was as sick as she was because she never acted like she felt bad," said Tarver Britton, the Development Assistant at Children's Hospital who handles all the Children's Miracle Network (CMN) sponsors. Starring at the ground, Britton recounted memories of Trinity Chambliss. "You couldn't be around her without laughing," Britton said with smile.

Young Chambliss loved doing arts and crafts, and was known for riding her bike through the halls of the Children's Hospital while putting a smile on everyone's face.

This year's Dance Marathon at GCSU was geared toward the memory and honor of this brave young girl whose life ended at the age of only six. Chambliss was diagnosed with T-cell Lymphoma, a type of cancer, which affected her for roughly three years. Doctors eventually concluded that she needed a bone marrow transplant. After the transplant in the early Autumn of 2006, Chambliss battled with infection that her body no longer had the capacity to fight and she died on December 6, 2006. Chambliss' mother and two sisters were present for a portion of the Dance Marathon. Her mother

spoke publicly for the first time since Chambliss died, which brought a somber sense of reality to the cause and efforts of the event.

Child patients like Chambliss are whom supporters, participants, and organizers are trying to help by raising money through efforts like the Dance Marathon. The young patients that visited evidently made a huge impact at the Dance Marathon and gave flesh to the stories and sentiments echoed by volunteers and workers of the CMN.

Dance Marathon is a national event associated with the CMN that annually takes place on college campuses. GCSU held the event for the third year on Saturday February 24, and participants played games and danced in the game show themed event from noon to midnight without sitting, leaning, or leaving, all for the cause of showing support for the young terminal patients associated with the Children's Hospital Medical Center of Central Georgia in Macon.

Participants were asked to raise at least fifty dollars, and were charged fifteen dollars upon entrance. Among the 155 participants, \$12,166.86 was raised to donate to the CMN benefiting numerous local children suffering from severe illnesses. This type of fundraising is unique because all the

money raised stays in the area to benefit local patients.

Several patients of the local Children's Hospital in Macon visited the event throughout the day, playing with participants and touching the hearts of everyone present. Just like any other child would do, these kids were playing, laughing, and were excited just to be surrounded by college students who are really just "big kids."

Junior nursing major, Taylor Sapp, said, "Interacting with [the kids] moves me to want to be more involved and work at a Children's Hospital one day."

Nicole Herman, a junior rhetoric major, was the catering chair for the event and said, "I've grown to appreciate the hard work that goes into events like this." She said that being involved in such fundraising events is not only rewarding but also a good way to build a resume. She wants to encourage more college students to get involved and make a difference.

The Dance Marathon takes place every year, and every year volunteers are needed. The G.I.V.E. Center, located in Ennis Hall, provides information on many types of volunteer opportunities and is always in need of more help from willing students. Contact Kendall Stiles in The G.I.V.E. Center for detailed information.

Bees

Continued from page 10 . . .

up. One thing we always get called for is people saying, 'We've got bees in our house!'. People expect me to come out and take care of their bee problem."

After saving neighbors from bees and supplying customers with their honey, Pluta will go to sleep when he feels his day has been a productive success. If he wakes up at around 1 or 2 am, he may just drive to Gainesville, Florida to be there when the supply house opens. That way, he can make it back to Milledgeville in time to open up shop and hopefully start a new day and make a few sales.



KATIE HUSTON / SENIOR REPORTER
John Pluta's bee farm. His usual workday is 16 to 18 hours.

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Jazz

Continued from page 10 . . .

singer. He and fellow vocalist Laura Dees seemed flat during their rendition of "Chattanooga Choo Choo." Any charm and charisma that the pair shared in past concerts appeared to be absent this time around. Similarly, Dees' lackluster perform-

ance of "At Last" left me longing for conviction from the songstress.

Despite his showing in this concert, Joiner has established a reputation as a very gifted musician. His performances of "Feeling Good" during the band's previous two concerts proves as much. But in the case of this concert, Shiver may have asked too much of his go-to guy.

Hopefully next time around a few other trumpeters will step up to the task.

But even with these few missteps, the overall concert was enjoyable. A great set list and some fabulous work by Daniel Seibel, Kyle Christmas and the rest of the saxophone section put this one on the plus side for the band.

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Roommates from Hell

BY KRISTEN BROWN
GUEST COLUMNIST

So, have you ever heard of the expression ‘buyer beware’? Well, I think we need to invent a new one: “Roommate Beware.” Having roommates is an essential part of the college experience, true, but everyone knows someone with a roommate horror story. I am certainly no exception. As a matter of fact, I could write a book on the subject, but instead I’m going to write this column.

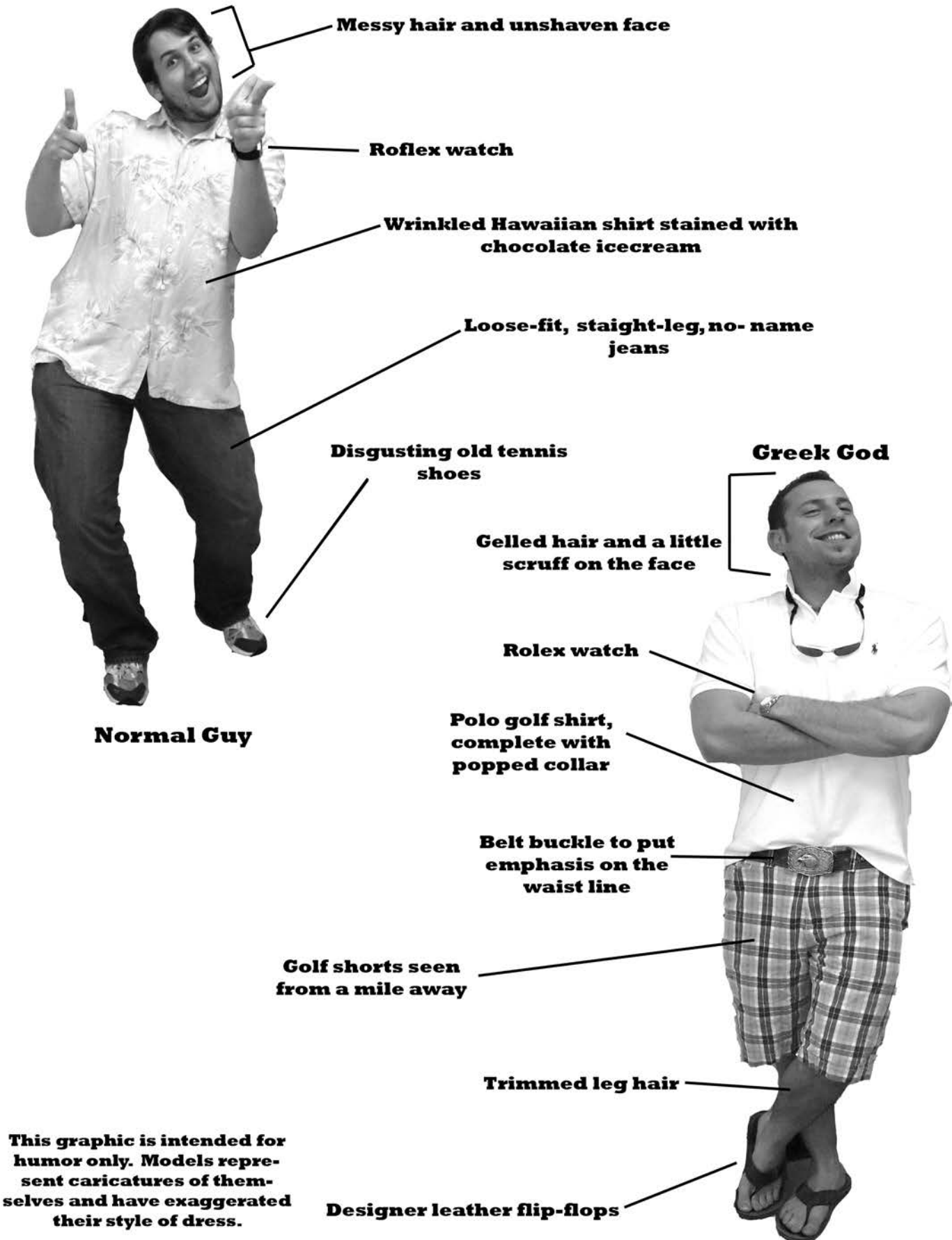
When people first move into the residence halls, they are more than likely going to be stuck with someone they don’t know. This is not necessarily a bad thing; it forces you to learn to compromise and to meet new people. However, it is always a good idea to ensure that you have an adequate back up plan should things go wrong. For example, when I first came to this school (so many years ago) I had elected to live at Bobcat Village. Because I was new to the town and didn’t know anyone prior to my stay, I was put in a room with three girls I didn’t know. I ended up with a roommate who got a dog without asking us, stole from me, and had a window broken in the apartment when an angry ‘friend’ of one of my roommates came to visit. Unfortunately, I had no way out of the apartment until the end of my lease, despite my many complaints to the officials.

Just because you know someone does not mean

you should live with him or her. After escaping the horrors of my first apartment, I soon found I’d jumped from the frying pan into the fire. I moved into a house with two friends. I’m not going to name any names or point any fingers, but some situations come with hidden costs. For those of you considering sharing off-campus housing, it is a good idea to establish a set of rules and responsibilities in writing. I know this might sound extreme, but my wallet is several hundred dollars lighter thanks to the fact that past roommates ended up not paying their part of the utilities. Also, I had to put up with strange, naked men passed out on my couch, roommates coming in an out at all hours, the smell of cigarette smoke (and worse) inside the apartment, filthy dishes and other disgusting habits. You never really know someone until you live with him or her, but do you really want to find out the hard way? Before I lived with them, I never would have guessed that collectively my past roommates would be: a stripper, an obsessive-compulsive person, a drug addict, a liar, a thief and a pig.

As a graduating senior, I feel it is my duty to share some of the knowledge I have learned while at this great institution, and that is ‘roommate beware’. Certainly, having roommates can be a very rewarding experience, but before you sign that lease, be sure you are adequately prepared.

Anatomy of the College Male



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THE SPORTS GUY
BY WES BROWN



Division I is a step down

Next year University of South Carolina Upstate will leave the Peach Belt Conference the NCAA Division II to join NCAA Division I play. This marks the third school to make the switch in the past two years, officially making it a concern in the conference. Kennesaw State and North Florida departed for the Division I ranks in 2005.

What are GCSU's chances of reallocating to Division I? According to Athletic Director Stan Aldridge, the chances are slim.

"I think it is absurd to even consider it," Aldridge said. "We would have to add four more sports to meet Division I requirements and drastically upgrade our scholarship money. We are already competitive at the Division II level. Being in Division I would totally exclude us from being nationally competitive. The most any team could expect is to win the conference championship."

Aldridge lays out many of the cons really well. Making the switch would cost the school many things.

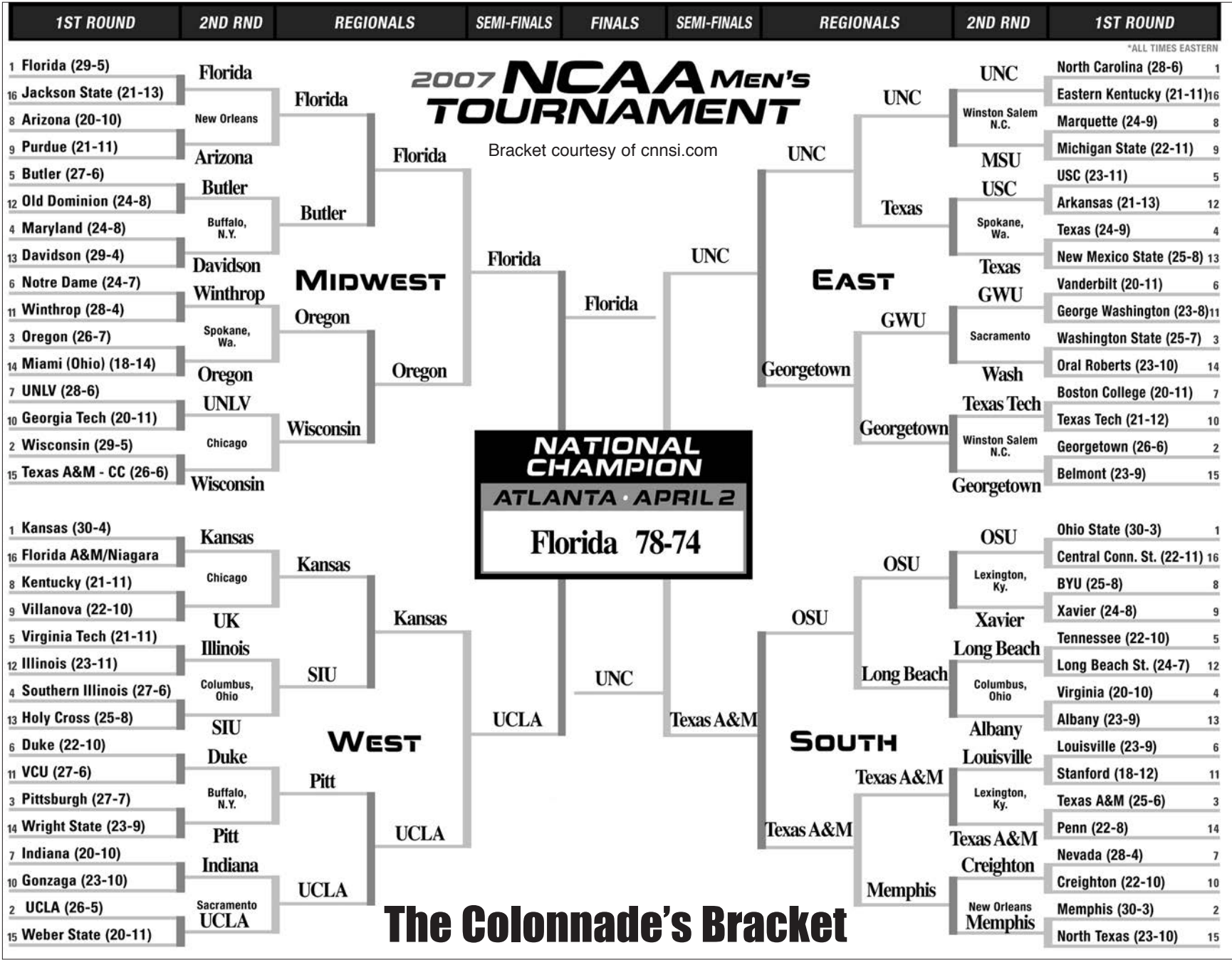
One expense to the school would be adding four more sports. The school has 10 sports. To be a Division I school, each school must have 14 competitive sports. Which sports can GCSU add? There is a possibility to add women's golf, volleyball, men's soccer and/or swimming.

These are possible options, but are they probable? The answer is no. It is difficult to maintain the existing sports off the current budget. To afford the new uniforms, scholarship offers, coaching salaries, and etc The school would have to increase student fees substantially. Do you think the students would support increasing their fees? I don't think they would comply.

Another sacrifice the school would have to make is decreasing our chances of being competitive. One example is college basketball. If GCSU won their conference and got a bid to the NCAA tournament, the team would not be higher than a 13 seed. There is no way that our teams could beat teams like Duke, University of North Carolina, or University of Connecticut. Is making the transfer worth not having competitive programs? I do not believe the ends justify the means.

The answer to why these schools are switching is simple. Schools want to see their scores appear on the bottom line of ESPN.

GCSU prepares for the 'Big Dance'



BY COREY DICKSTEIN
SENIOR REPORTER

The selections are in and brackets are being filled out by people all over the country. Yes, March Madness is back and promises yet another exciting two and a half weeks of college basketball in the NCAA Division I Tournament.

GCSU may not have a Division I basketball team to watch and cheer for in the biggest tournament in college sports, but that does not stop GCSU students from becoming inflamed with passion for the Big Dance.

"It's crazy, it's electrifying, there is no other basketball tournament like it," said Kyle Smith, a sophomore exercise science major. "It's just the most exciting thing to watch."

That excitement has

lead many students around campus to join pools, where they fill out brackets to assess their college basketball knowledge and compete with friends.

"I just do (pools) because they are fun," Ryan Bidwell, a sophomore business major, said. "March Madness comes around and, man, it's just so awesome. The brackets are fun, I get to see how much I really know. It's like a test."

Filling out brackets in pools has become very popular among friends, in offices and even for big-time gambling operations. In fact, pools have become so popular that even Facebook offers members the chance to set up pools with their friends.

"It's cool that Facebook has that now; it makes it easier to keep up with and stuff and just compete with

your friends," said Bidwell, who is in four pools on Facebook.

Other students like March Madness because it is unpredictable.

"I like March Madness because whatever you think will happen never happens," said Ryan Boyd, a senior accounting major. "It always hurts to watch the Cinderellas blow up my bracket, but that's what makes the picks so fun."

The four No. 1 seeds in this year's tournament are the University of Florida, the University of North Carolina (UNC), the University of Kansas, and Ohio State University.

Many students favor Florida to win a second straight tournament championship.

"I'm thinking Florida has to be the team to beat," Smith said. "They have the experience from last year,

and (Center, Joakim) Noah is a beast on the inside. I don't see anyone stopping him."

Bidwell agrees that Florida is the team to beat and adds that he can see Kansas and Georgetown doing well.

"I see a lot of good stuff with Georgetown," said Bidwell, a self-described college basketball fanatic. "But I am really impressed with a few of the teams. I could really see Long Beach State being this year's Cinderella."

Even Coach Terry Sellers, GCSU's men's basketball head coach, is getting in on the fun.

"I'll tell you what, it's a strong field this year," Sellers said. "The No. 1 and No. 2 seeds and some of the three seeds are tough to beat. Of course like everyone else I like Kansas, Florida and UCLA

this year. They are all going to be difficult to beat. Florida, especially, has got back on a roll. They are hard to pick against."

Sellers is especially rooting for Winthrop to be a Cinderella this year.

"I can see Winthrop beating Notre Dame in the first round," Sellers said. "They have one of the best players (GCSU) has ever had in Earl Grant as one of their assistant coaches."

The tournament concludes with the Final Four, being held just down the road at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta, March 31 through Apr. 2.

March Madness is here and pool bragging rights are on the line.

"The best thing about it is if you win, you get bragging rights over all your friends," said Boyd.

The Colonnade's Final Four Predictions

Florida Gators



1 seed Midwest
AP Ranking: 3
Record: 29-5

UNC Tar Heels



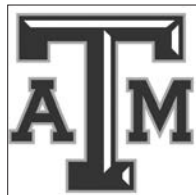
1 seed East
AP Ranking: 4
Record: 28-6

UCLA Bruins



2 seed West
Ap Ranking: 7
Record: 26-5

TA&M Aggies



3 seed South
AP Ranking: 9
Record: 25-6

Florida looks to defend their 2005 National Championship after repeating as Southeastern Conference Champions.

Though the Gators tailed off at the end of the season, expect them to stay as hot as they were in the SEC tournament where they cruised to any easy championship over Arkansas 77-56.

Watch for star center Joakim Noah to lead them through the Midwest region and storm through Atlanta, grabbing a National Championship on their way back to Gainesville.

Fresh off their Atlantic Coast Conference Tournament victory, North Carolina looks to stay hot.

The Tar Heels have overcome their youthful tendencies and lived up to expectations this year. Their victory over North Carolina State in the ACC Championship game ensured them a No. 1 seat.

Expect North Carolina to come out of the East by beating a very strong Georgetown team, and advance to the championship game where Florida's experience should send them home empty-handed.

UCLA hopes to bounce back from their loss in the National Championship to Florida last season.

The Bruins experience landed them the Pacific 10 Conference regular season title, but they fell in overtime to Cal in the tournament quarter-finals.

Look for Junior Aaron Afalo to guide his team through the West. A rematch of last year's National Championship game with Florida is likely. Expect Florida to hinder UCLA's dreams of retributions.

The most talented team in the region is top seed Ohio State and the hardest to gauge is second seed Memphis. The most consistent, however, is Texas A&M.

Led by All-American senior point guard Acie Law IV, the Aggies knocked off Syracuse in last year's tourney 66-58 and won at Kansas earlier this year 69-66.

Law is among the most clutch players in the league. If Law's scoring in the final four minutes of Big 12 games was projected over 40 minutes, he'd average 63 ppg.

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We.d. 2 p.m. @Lenoir-Rhyne
Sun. 1 p.m. Belmont Abbey

Women's Tennis

Sun. 5:30 p.m. @North Georgia
Wed. 5:30 p.m. @USC-Upstate

STAT of the WEEK

1

The number of points GCSU's Women's Basketball team lost by to PBC rival No. 16 Clayton State in overtime of the NCAA Tournament regional final on Monday.

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Lady Bobcats make it to NCAA Sweet Sixteen

BY WES BROWN
SENIOR REPORTER

The women advanced to the Sweet Sixteen of the NCAA South Atlantic Regional Tournament but came up short once against Peach Belt Conference (PBC) rival Clayton State 66-65 in overtime.

"The tournament proved how tough the PBC is," head coach John Carrick said. "The PBC put out the teams from other conferences and made it as far as they could until the played one another."

The Lady Bobcats, the six seed in the tournament, won big in the first two rounds, downing three seed Wingate 87-67 and two seed No. 19 North Carolina Central 72-63.

The Lady Bobcats were able to make it so far in the tournament thanks to the solid defense of senior Cassie Miliner and the offensive power of junior Marquita Driskell.

Miliner was a force on defense stopping the offensive threats for Wingate and UNC Central. Miliner held Wingate's leading scorer Tanetra Barrett who averages over 19 points a game, to 17 points and UNC Central's leading scorer Cassie King, who averages over 16 points per game, to 15 points.

"I take pride in my defense," Miliner said. "There were some talented players in the tournament and it is a challenge to step up and stop them, but I love doing it."

The Bobcats also benefited from the offensive strength of Driskell. Driskel, who averages 19.5



WILL GODFREY/SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

The Lady Bobcats made it to the Sweet Sixteen of the NCAA South Atlantic Regional Tournament. Junior Lindsey Smith, above, was critical in the team's success, recording a career and game-best 12 assists in the win against UNC Central.

points per game, dominated the first two contests of the tournament, averaging 32.5 points and 16 rebounds. She posted 30 points and 14 rebounds with four steals and two blocks in the win over No. 24 Wingate University, and then added a career-best 35 points and 18 rebounds with four blocks in the semifinal win over No. 19 North Carolina Central University.

Driskell also scored 21 points and had 15 rebounds to go with four blocks in the loss to Clayton State. The ladies left it all out on the floor in the loss, as they did not want to suffer a fourth straight loss to the Lady Lakers this season. In

the final moments of the second half, Driskell hurt her knee but fought through the pain ending the game and playing in overtime.

"Even though the pain hurt, I knew that I could still bring something for the team," Driskell said. "I wanted to be on the court and finish the game."

The Lady Bobcats look to return to the tournament next year and claim the title as the team only loses one senior, Miliner.

"Next year, hopefully, we can claim the top seed and host the tournament," Carrick said. "We just need to not have as many hiccups as we did this year."

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Quay Fuller

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- Community Leader.
 - Former GCSU Alumni Board member.
 - School of Business Advisory Board member.
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Kim H. Martin

- Vice President and General Manager of WE tv (Women's Entertainment Television).
- Oversees all aspects of the network, including marketing, programming, production and scheduling.
- She is credited with the rapid growth of WE tv, now available to more than 62 million U.S. households.

Suzanne Pharr

- Civil Rights activist and author.
- Life's work has been focused on building a multi-racial, multi-issued movement for social and economic justice.
- Founded the Women's Project in Arkansas and was on the staff for 18 years.
- The first woman director of the historic Highlander Research and Education Center.
- www.suzzanepharr.org

Fifina Stephens

- Director of Milledgeville Housing Authority.



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GCSU support squads are among PBC elite



WILL GODFREY/SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER
GCSU dance team, the Sassy Cats, pictured above, placed first in the PBC dance competition at Lander University, March 1-4. The Sassy Cats were not alone as both the cheerleading and pep band squads placed second in the PBC.

BY S. ASHLEE
MOONEYHAN
STAFF WRITER

When it comes to Bobcat basketball, GCSU has got people dancing, cheering and blowing horns to show support and help get the rest of the crowd pumped during the games. The recent Peach Belt Tournament was a chance for the Sassy Cats, the cheerleading squad, and the pep band to show their talent and claim a rank of superiority among the others schools in the Peach Belt Conference (PBC).

In the midst of the PBC basketball tournament, dance teams, cheer squads and pep bands from various schools competed for bragging rights for being the most talented and the most spirited. In keeping with tradition, GCSU came home ranked among the top competitors.

The Sassy Cats dance team brought home the gold with a first place ranking in the dance team competition. They were the only GCSU group to come back with the right to brag of a first place honor for a top performance at the competition.

"Taking first place was huge for the team," said Jennifer Shannon, junior sassy cat captain. "We have come far as a squad. We changed our style to more hip hop and it seems

to be working. It is more crowd pleasing and the girls enjoy it more. We perform better with a hip hop style, because it is something that the team likes and has fun doing."

The cheerleading squad also maintained a tradition of excellence for GCSU by ranking second in the cheer competition. Head coach Kyle Hood commented on the squad with pride, but says that there always improvements that can be made and they are working hard.

"As a general rule, people want to pretend that cheering is not a sport, but it really is tough," Hood said.

The squad practices all year to perfect just one routine that is only two and half minutes long. In the off-season the members of the squad are expected to maintain fitness by continuing an informal workout regime and they also assist in summer cheer camps and clinics.

Hood believes that the squad's history of competitive cheering, rather than just on the court sidelines at games, is a major reason why the squad can perform so well and rank so high in comparison to other schools in the conference.

The pep band also managed to hold a position of excellence in this year's competition by ranking

second. The 20 musicians in the band have worked hard, rehearsing from October to December and beginning their presence at the basketball games at the start of the season in January and continuing through to the end of the season with the basketball team.

GCSU's pep band has long-standing history of being one of the brightest and best in the conference. Todd Shiver, the director of bands, said that GCSU was the first school in the PBC to have a pep band and many of the others in the conference were originally based off the one at GCSU. Since 1990 when the band made its premier at the basketball games, they have managed to stay among the most elite in the conference, winning 12 first-place rankings throughout the years.

"They really get into the game," said Shiver, who is present at every game. He said with a smile that he is there "to make sure they don't get into trouble."

The pep band is mainly lead by student director Corey Tanner, a senior music education major. Shiver humbly stated that Tanner deserves the most credit for all the accomplishments of the pep band.

COACHES CORNER

BY COREY DICKSTEIN



Week 7: Tom Carty

Tom Carty jumped at the opportunity to come coach at GCSU last year when his friend, Head Coach Chris Calciano asked him to be his pitching coach.

"Coach Calciano and I knew each other for years just from being two Pennsylvania baseball guys and he contacted me about the opening here, and I actually knew, pretty well, the reputation of (GCSU) and the great history we had here in baseball," Carty said.

Carty has been involved with baseball his entire life and got into coaching after his playing days were over

in the Pennsylvania junior college ranks.

"It's just a game that's always been a challenge for me," Carty said. "I love the game, and it's just something I always wanted to do. You know, we all get told at some point, whether it's by the Yankees or by your high school coach, someday you can't play anymore, we're not all like (Roger) Clemens and get to say when we want to leave, so coaching was basically the next option."

Carty got what he called a "great opportunity" last year when he was asked to coach the USA Athletics

International, Inc. baseball team in Holland.

"When you go (to other countries) as Americans, as the USA team, they look at you like you're the experts on baseball," Carty said. "I enjoyed it so much. I was there with my wife, and just a really great group of kids, and we won the tournament."

What are Carty's future plans?

"This is my 11th or 12th year of coaching at some level and, you know, as an assistant you want to be a head coach eventually. But, no hurry. It will come when the time is right," said Carty.

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